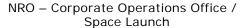# access to space

http://accesstospace.nasa.gov

The 2001 RideShare Conference

The third annual Rideshare Conference will be held at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterrey, CA from May 30-31. This conference was established to bring together the ride sharing community to focus on sharing information and developing effective means to enable more frequent and low cost rides to space. Topics for this year's meeting will target known rideshare opportunities and innovative approaches to providing affordable access to space for small payloads. Co-sponsors of this year's event include:

NRO – Corporate Operations Office /   The Naval Postgraduate School
Space Launch

For more information or to register for the conference, contact **Jim Liller (NRO)** by phone at **703-808-2334** or by email at **lillerja@nro.mil**.

Consider Sounding Rockets for Your Mission!

Sounding rockets are low-cost vehicles that carry out many quick response science missions as well as serving as test facilities for instrumentation to be launched on later satellites. The NASA Sounding Rocket Program (NSRP) out of the Wallops Flight Facility has been one of the primary vehicles for space and earth science research for the past 39 years.

The data gathered from over 2500 missions in that time frame has provided important and often critical information to support the international scientific community as well as NASA and other government agencies. These experiments have added greatly to our knowledge in galactic astronomy, solar physics, planetary atmospheres, high-energy physics and other disciplines. They have also tested the elements of larger missile, high orbit, and planetary science programs to reduce overall cost and risk. Sounding Rocket missions are a vital part of NASA's research arsenal.

You can learn more about the Sounding Rocket program in the Access Mode Information section of the ATS Web Site.

New Site Features – Stored User Sessions

The ATS Mission Database section contains several queries that users regularly visit and perform. Many of these queries are repeated in either the same session or in a return visit to the site. For example, if a user wants to see if there is a compatible ride-share mission to a Sun-synchronous orbit at 700km in 2002, they will type in these parameters to perform a query. Should they decide to run this particular query multiple times in the same session, or check back the following week, they will once again be required to type in these same parameters.

We have developed a solution to this situation. Now when a registered user performs a query, the values entered for each query will be stored in the database as part of the activity. These parameters will then be called up automatically to initialize the input values the next time that user wants to perform that query. If the user wishes to perform a different query, a reset button is available to return to the default settings.